

(B) shall promulgate a final rule under this section by not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) EXTENSION.—The Commission may extend the deadline described in paragraph (1) if the Commission provides timely notice to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REID, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Mr. COLEMAN):

S. 585. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for reduction of SBP survivor annuities by dependency and indemnity compensation; to the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 585

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Military Retiree Survivors Relief Act of 2003".

#### SEC. 2. REPEAL OF REQUIREMENT OF REDUCTION OF SBP SURVIVOR ANNUITIES BY DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION.

(a) REPEAL.—Section 1451(c) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking paragraph (2).

(b) PROHIBITION ON RETROACTIVE BENEFITS.—No benefits may be paid to any person for any period before the effective date specified in subsection (c) by reason of the amendment made by subsection (a).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on—

(1) the first day of the first month that begins after the date of the enactment of this Act; or

(2) the first day of the fiscal year that begins in the calendar year in which this Act is enacted, if later than the date specified in paragraph (1).

#### NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

##### COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet on Tuesday, March 11, 2003, at 2:30 p.m. in Room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building to consider the Committee's Views and Estimates on the President's FY 2004 Budget Request for Indian Programs.

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at 224-2251.

##### SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The purpose of this hearing is

to conduct oversight on National Trail designations and the potential impact of National Trails on private lands, communities, and activities within the viewshed of the trails. In addition, the Subcommittee will receive testimony on S. 324, a bill to amend the National Trail System Act to clarify Federal authority relating to land acquisition from willing sellers for certain trails in the National Trails System.

The hearing will take place on March 25, 2003 at 2:30 PM in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, SD-364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact: Tom Lillie at (202) 224-5161 or Pete Lucero at (202) 224-6293.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

##### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet on Monday, March 10, 2003 from 2:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m. in Dirksen 628 for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Mark Carlson, a fellow in Senator HATCH's office, be given the privilege of the floor for the remainder of today's session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d-276g., as amended, appoints the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) as Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the Canada to the Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group conference during the 108th Congress.

The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, in accordance with 22 U.S. 1928a-1928d, as amended, appoints the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BINDEN) as Vice Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly during the 108th Congress.

#### ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2003

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 9:30 a.m.,

Tuesday, March 11. I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then resume consideration of Calendar No. 19, S. 3, the partial-birth abortion bill; that at 11 a.m., the Senate return to executive session and resume consideration of the nomination of Miguel Estrada to be a circuit judge for the DC Circuit, and that the time until 12:30 p.m. be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees; that at 12:30 p.m., the Senate recess until the hour of 2:15 p.m. for the weekly party caucuses; and that upon reconvening at 2:15 p.m., the Senate return to legislative session and resume consideration of S. 3.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PROGRAM

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, tomorrow the Senate will resume the consideration of S. 3, the partial-birth abortion bill. It is my understanding that Senator MURRAY will be prepared to offer an amendment first thing tomorrow morning. The leader has indicated it is his intention to finish this important legislation by the end of the week. Therefore, I encourage any Senators who wish to offer an amendment to the bill to work with the bill managers so they can arrange time for amendment consideration.

At 11 a.m., the Senate will return to the Estrada nomination and begin a critical debate on the judicial nominations process and the long-term implications the current filibuster will hold for this body. Members are encouraged to come to the Chamber and engage in this vital discussion.

Following the recess, the Senate will return to consideration of the partial-birth abortion bill. Additional amendments are expected, and therefore Members should anticipate votes during tomorrow's session.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 8:03 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, March 11, 2003, at 9:30 a.m.

#### CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate March 10, 2003:

##### THE JUDICIARY

GREGORY L. FROST, OF OHIO, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO.